



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## MISSISSIPPI MAN SENTENCED TO TEN-YEAR PRISON TERM FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY *Judge cites need to protect community*

**Oxford, Ms.**--Special Agent-in-Charge Michael A. Holt, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in New Orleans and U.S. Attorney Jim M. Greenlee announced that today in Oxford, Mississippi, United States District Judge Michael P. Mills sentenced Robert Earl Jones to ten years incarceration for possession of child pornography. Jones, a 34 year-old Horn Lake, Mississippi resident, was indicted in Federal Court for possessing child pornography in February 2004 and underwent a psychological examination before he pled guilty October 28, 2004, to the charge. Jones is currently under indictment on Mississippi state charges of two counts of sexual battery of two minors in Horn Lake, Mississippi and has been held in custody since his February 2004 arrest.

Judge Mills, citing the recent Supreme Court decision of *United States v. Booker and Fanfan*, announced that the Federal sentencing guideline range of 4 to 5 years was inadequate to address the seriousness of Jones' offense and to protect the community from Jones, especially considering the state charges and a 1993 dismissed state sexual battery of a minor charge.

Judge Mills then sentenced Jones to the ten-year statutory maximum, citing the need to protect the public from future crimes by Jones and the need to instill in Jones a respect for the human life of others. Judge Mills specifically cited a portion of the Federal statute advising that higher sentences are warranted in crimes involving minors and sexual offenses. Judge Mills imposed a period of supervised release of three years after Jones' incarceration and ordered that Jones undergo counseling and treatment for sexual predators, register as a sex offender with state authorities when released, submit DNA samples to probation officers and have no access to computers. Judge Mills remanded Jones immediately to Federal Custody to await designation by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons to which Federal penitentiary he will serve his sentence.

"Offenses like these are committed by repulsive individuals in all walks of life. ICE is committed to pursuing all these cases aggressively to protect innocent children who are victimized by such a

horrific industry," said Holt. He also expressed his appreciation to the U.S. Attorney for aggressively prosecuting this case and others like it. U.S. Attorney Greenlee praised the work of the agents of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) of the United States Department of Homeland Security for their work in investigating the case.

Assistant United States Attorney Paul D. Roberts prosecuted the case.

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*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*